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Stated Meeting, November 18.

Present, twenty-six members.

Mr. DU PONCEAU, President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From Prof. Peirce, of Harvard University, dated 10th Nov. 1842, acknowledging the honour done him by his election as a member of the Society:—

From Dr. Tidyman, dated Charleston, 12th Nov. 1842, in relation to certain autograph letters presented by him to the Society:—and

From Mr. Bossange, bookseller, of Paris, dated 10th Oct. 1842, addressed to the Librarian, offering his services to the Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. Vol. I. Nos. 17, 18 & 19. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1842.—*From the Academy.*

Seven Autograph Letters, addressed to Dr. Tidyman by distinguished persons in Europe.—*From Dr. Tidyman.*

Dr. Bache announced the decease, on the 26th ult., of Dr. William R. Fisher, a member of the Society, aged 34 years.

Mr. Lea made some remarks on the form and structure of those *univalve* shells, known as *turbinated* and *discoid shells*, and exhibited various species.

He stated that he was aware ten or twelve years since that some of the German mathematicians were engaged in the investigation of their forms, with a view to determine species mathematically. Mr. L. referred to the ingenious and learned papers of Prof. Mosely, in the Philosophical Transactions and Philosophical Magazine, on Conchiliometry, proving the conchospiral to be the logarithmic spiral. It would be difficult to deny the truth of Prof. Mosely's conclusion, that "to each particular shell is annexed a characteristic number, being the ratio of the geometric progression." A more accurate

verification can scarcely be imagined than that from the admeasurement of *Turbo duplicatus*.

Geom. ratio, 1.18.					
Calculated.					Measured.
1.31	-	-	-	-	1.31
1.1098	-	-	-	-	1.12
.9401	-	-	-	-	.94
.7965	-	-	-	-	.8
.6747	-	-	-	-	.67
.5716	-	-	-	-	.57
.4842	-	-	-	-	.48
.4102	-	-	-	-	.41

Mr. Lea also exhibited to the Society a beautiful and nearly perfect specimen of an *Ammonite*, from the Oxford Clay, Chippenham, England, recently described in the Magazine of Natural History, and which presented, entire, the process extending from the aperture, which he passed some remarks upon.

Mr. Justice stated that he had examined the appearance of the moon, to verify the observations made at New Bedford, and that the phenomena visible were perfectly explicable, without supposing that any combustion was going on at the surface of the satellite.

Professor Bache stated that his attention had recently been particularly called, by a letter from M. Quetelet, Secretary of the Academy of Sciences of Brussels, to the general instructions for simultaneous observations of natural phenomena, issued by the Academy. Co-operation in the system of observations by observers in the United States being very desirable, Prof. Bache asked leave to offer the following resolution:

“Resolved, That a Committee of five members be appointed, to report to the Society what measures may be taken, most effectually to secure co-operation, by observers in the United States, in the system of observations of periodical natural phenomena, forming the subject of the instructions of the Brussels Academy of Sciences.”

This resolution was adopted, and the following Committee appointed:—Prof. Bache, Dr. Patterson, Mr. Frazer, Dr. Griscom and Mr. Lea.

Prof. Bache communicated observations which had been

made at the Magnetic Observatory, of the number of meteors or "shooting stars," for three hours on the mornings of the 12th, 14th and 15th of November. The morning of the 13th was cloudy. The eyes of the observer were directed to the zenith and northward. The results are contained in the following table.

TIME.		APPARENT MOTION OF METEORS.				
		DOWNWARD.			UPWARD.	
Day.	Hour.	Eastward.	Westward.	North.	Eastward.	Westward.
Nov. 12th.	12 to 1 A. M.	4	1	2		
	1 to 2	4	8	1		1
	2 to 3	4	4			1
14th.	12 to 1 A. M.	3	4	1		
	1 to 2	5	7	1	1	2
	2 to 3	7	10			
15th.	12½ to 1 A.M.	4				
	1 to 2	6	4			
	2 to 3	3			1	

The greatest number observed in any one hour was 17, the least 4; the average number per hour during the three hours on the 12th, was 10; on the 14th, 14; and on the 15th, 7.

Stated Meeting, December 2.

Present, twenty-five members.

Mr. Du Ponceau, President, in the Chair.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

A Catalogue of the Officers and Students of Dartmouth College, for the Academical Year 1842–3. 8vo. Concord, 1842.—*From the College.*